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EXAMINER

KOYAMA, KUMIKO C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/905.623

Applicant(s)

ASAWAKA STUART

Examiner

Kumiko C. Koyama

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Oath/Declaration*

1. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

It does not state that the person making the oath or declaration acknowledges the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

3. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fujitani (US Patent Application Publication US 2001/0034747 A1).

Fujitani discloses a print unit such as a color laser printer or a color ink jet printer for printing a selected or specified information by the user (Page 3, Paragraph [0034], lines 14-16). Fujitani discloses that the printer has print options and parameters, and also resolution level (Page 6, Paragraph [0053], lines 4-11, lines 22-24). Fujitani teaches that the printer processing

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units receive a set of print parameters including a number of copies, a print out size, a print material, a print resolution level, and a print speed (Page 9, claim 42). Fujitani teaches that the printer offers low and high resolution (Page 6, Paragraph [0053], lines 9-10). Fujitani also discloses charging a fee for the printing to the user (Page 7, claim 1).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 4-6, 9-12, 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujitani et al in view of Shima (US 6,369,909).

Re claim 1, 4, 5 and 6: Fujitani discloses a print unit such as a color laser printer or a color ink jet printer for printing a selected or specified information by the user (Page 3, Paragraph [0034], lines 14-16). Fujitani discloses that the printer has print options and parameters, and also resolution level (Page 6, Paragraph [0053], lines 4-11, lines 22-24). Fujitani teaches that the printer processing units receive a set of print parameters including a number of copies, a print out size, a print material, a print resolution level, and a print speed (Page 9, claim 42). Fujitani teaches that the printer offers low and high resolution (Page 6, Paragraph [0053], lines 9-10). Fujitani also discloses charging a fee for the printing to the user (Page 7, claim 1).

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Fujitani fails to teach a method for receiving a resource request at the printer and operating the printer according to the resource request including at least one of use of and right of use of the selected at least one printer resource.

Shima teaches that a network printer receives a print request from a host over a communication network and can process the thus-received print request in many forms, the network printer comprising means for selecting according to the detail of the received print request a mode in which the print request is processed (col 6 lines 45-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to integrate the teachings of Shima to the teachings of Fujitani, and include receiving a resource request at the printer and operating the printer according to the resource request in order provide the user with a custom and desired form of printing, resulting in more demand for the printer.

Re claim 9, 15, 16 and 17: Fujitani discloses a control unit, a central processing unit or digital signal processor 111 for controlling various functions or units of the printer processing unit 11 (Page 3, Paragraph [0034]). Fujitani teaches that the printer processing units receive a set of print parameters including a number of copies, a print out size, a print material, a print resolution level, and a print speed (Page 9, claim 42). Resolution levels include low resolution and high resolution levels (Page 6, Paragraph [0053], lines 9-10). Fujitani also discloses that depending upon the selected print options and parameters, the print fee may be updated to reflect the selections (Page 6, Paragraph [0053], lines 21-23). Fujitani also teaches charging a fee for the printing to the user (Page 7, claim 1).

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Fujitani fails to disclose a print job control receiving a request relative to at least one of the plurality of printer resources and a transaction control detecting the request.

Shima teaches that a network printer receives a print request from a host over a communication network and can process the thus-received print request in many forms, the network printer comprising means for selecting according to the detail of the received print request a mode in which the print request is processed (col 6 lines 45-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to integrate the teachings of Shima to the teachings of Fujitani, and include a print job control receiving a request relative to at least one of the plurality of printer resources and detecting the request and initiate a payment transaction for the request in order provide the user with a custom and desired form of printing, resulting in more demand for the printer.

Re claim 10 and 11: Fujitani discloses that in printing the user selected information, the data includes user profile information as well as printer profile information for limiting certain print activities such as a maximal number of copies that a particular user and or a particular printer processing unit is allowed to make per print session over a predetermined time period (Page 3, Paragraph [0035], lines 12-19). One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that maximal number of copies may be an incident of use.

6. Claims 2, 13, 14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujitani as modified by Shima as applied to claim 1, 9 and 19 above, and further in view of Hennige (US 5,276,311). Fujitani as modified by Shima have been discussed above.

Fujitani as modified by Shima fails to teach that the printer initiates the payment transaction. Fujitani as modified by Shima also fail to teach transaction control generates a use report for delivery to a resource vendor.

Hennige teaches that the printer prints out an invoice (col 2 lines 56-59).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to integrate the teachings of Hennige to the teachings of Fujitani as modified by Shima in order to initiate a payment transaction by providing the user with an invoice so that the user will make a correct payment.

7. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujitani as modified by Shima and Hennige as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Narukawa (US 6,281,978). Fujitani/Shima/Hennige have been discussed above.

Fujitani/Shima/Hennige fail to teach that the printer includes a consumable element, the consumable element including a processing element initiating the payment transaction.

Narukawa teaches an image processing device which is capable of high-speed processing of high-resolution image data by using printer control section composed of a printer head control portion having a first CPU for modulating beams in accordance with image data (col 1 lines 47-52).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to integrate the teachings of Narukawa to the teachings of Fujitani as modified by Shima and include a consumable element (printer head) and the consumable element including a processing element (an image processing device) in order to provide a high-resolution image data to obtain a good quality and customized printing.

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8. Claims 7, 8 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujitani as modified by Shima as applied to claim 1 and 9 above, and further in view of Nocker, IV (US 6,236,486). Fujitani as modified by Shima have been discussed above.

Fujitani teaches a method for remotely printing desired information using a computer network (Page 1, Paragraph [0009])

Fujitani as modified by Shima fail to teach that at least one printer resource comprises access to a selected communication channel and the communication channel comprises at least one of an IR link and a network link.

Nocker teaches that an optical communication channel is established so that data files and commands may be sent from the data-collection computer 10 directly to the printer 20.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to integrate the teachings of Nocker to the teachings of Fujitani as modified by Shima and provide a communication channel comprising a network link in order to remotely print desired information by sending the information directly to the printer, which make the process faster.

### *Conclusion*

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Anzai, U.S. Patent No. 5,598,513, discloses a color printing apparatus for printing information data as well as overlay data.



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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kumiko C. Koyama whose telephone number is 703-305-5425.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 703-305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

kck  
November 15, 2002



KARL D. FRECH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER